

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1-15. (Canceled)

16. (Currently Amended) A method in a computing device of rendering portions of a television program, the method comprising:

receiving meta data corresponding to the television program, wherein the meta data ~~identifies portions~~ includes comments and for each comment, an identification of a portion within the television program to which the comment applies, the identification of a portion being an offset from a synchronization point after the beginning of the television program that serves as a common reference location for offsets among different versions of the television program, the synchronization point being specified by a broadcaster of the television program, having certain characteristics and the meta data having been provided by first viewers of the television program, the meta data being organized into sets of meta data for the television program;

providing access rights of a plurality of second viewers to the sets of meta data for the television program, some of the second viewers not being the broadcaster of the television program and not entitled to access all sets of the meta data; and

for each of ~~a~~ the plurality of second viewers,

selecting a set of meta data that the second viewer is entitled to access as indicated by provided access rights, ~~the second viewer not entitled to access all sets of meta data;~~

receiving from the second viewer input search criteria relating to ~~characteristics of the television program;~~

searching by the computing device ~~the received meta data provided by the first viewers of the selected set of meta data to locate~~ identify

comments of the selected set of meta data that satisfies the input search criteria;
for each identified comment, selecting portions the portion of the television program to which the identified comment applies as indicated by that are identified by located the received meta data; and
rendering to the second viewer the selected portions of the television program
so that each second viewer can view different portions of the television program based on their input search criteria and the selected set of meta data provided by a first viewer of the television program that the second viewer is entitled to access.

17-75. (Canceled)

76. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable storage device containing computer-executable instructions for controlling a computing device to render portions of a video, by a method comprising:

receiving meta data corresponding to the video, wherein the meta data ~~identifies portions~~ includes comments and for each comment, an identification of a portion within the video to which the comment applies, the identification of a portion being an offset from a synchronization point after the beginning of the video that serves as a common reference location for offsets among different versions of the video, the synchronization point being specified by an author of the video, having certain characteristics and the meta data having been provided by first viewers of the video, the meta data being organized into sets of meta data for the video;
providing access rights of a plurality of second viewers to the sets of meta data for the video, some of the second viewers not being an author of the video and not entitled to access all sets of the meta data; and

for each of a ~~the~~ plurality of second viewers,
selecting a set of meta data that the second viewer is entitled to access as indicated by provided access rights, ~~the second viewer not entitled to access all sets of meta data~~;
receiving from the second viewer input search criteria relating to ~~characteristics of the video~~;
searching by the computing device ~~the received meta data provided by the first viewers of the selected set of meta data to locate~~ identify comments of the selected set of meta data that satisfies the input search criteria;
for each identified comment, selecting portions the portion of the video to which the identified comment applies as indicated by that are identified by located the received meta data; and
rendering to the second viewer the selected portions of the video.

77-78. (Canceled)

79. (New) The method of claim 16 wherein the access rights are based on subscription fees paid by the second viewers.

80. (New) The method of claim 16 wherein the television program is received separately from the meta data.

81. (New) The method of claim 16 wherein one version of the television program is an initial broadcast of the television program and another version of the television program is a recorded version of the television program.

82. (New) The method of claim 16 wherein different first viewers provide meta data based on viewing different versions of the television program.

83. (New) The method of claim 16 wherein advertisements are inserted when rendering the selected portions.

84. (New) The computer-readable storage device of claim 76 wherein the access rights are based on subscription fees paid by the second viewers.

85. (New) The computer-readable storage device of claim 76 wherein the video is received separately from the meta data.

86. (New) The computer-readable storage device of claim 85 wherein one version of the video is a first recording of the video and another version of the video is a second recording of the video.

87. (New) The computer-readable storage device of claim 86 wherein different first viewers provide meta data based on viewing different versions of the television program.

88. (New) The computer-readable storage device of claim 87 wherein advertisements are inserted when rendering the selected portions.